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# DEPARTMENT OF INSURANCE

STATE OF ARIZONA

In the Matter of:	) Docket No. 05A-141-INS	
KELLEE CHRISTINE MITCHELL,	) ) ORDER	
Respondent.	)	
	)	

On February 10, 2006, the Office of Administrative Hearings, through Administrative Law Judge ("ALJ") Lewis D. Kowal, issued an Administrative Law Judge Decision ("Recommended Decision"), received by the Director of the Department of Insurance ("Director") on February 15, 2006, a copy of which is attached and incorporated by this reference. The Director of the Department of Insurance has reviewed the Recommended Decision and enters the following Order:

- 1. The Recommended Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law are adopted.
- 2. Respondent's creditor insurance producer's license is revoked.

### NOTIFICATION OF RIGHTS

Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.09, Respondent may request a rehearing with respect to this order by filing a written motion with the Director of the Department of Insurance within 30 days of the date of this Order, setting forth the basis for relief under A.A.C. R20-6-114(B). Pursuant to A.R.S. § 41-1092.09, it is not necessary to request a rehearing before filing an appeal to Superior Court.

Respondent may appeal the final decision of the Director to the Superior Court of 1 Maricopa County for judicial review pursuant to A.R.S. § 20-166. A party filing an appeal must 2 notify the Office of Administrative Hearings of the appeal within ten days after filing the 3 complaint commencing the appeal, pursuant to A.R.S. § 12-904(B). 4 DATED this 15 of February, 2006 5 6 7 CHRISTINA URIAS Director of Insurance 8 A copy of the foregoing mailed 9 this 17th day of February, 2006 10 Mary Kosinski, Executive Assistant for Regulatory Affairs Catherine O'Neil, Consumer Legal Affairs Officer 11 Steve Fromholtz, Producer Licensing Administrator Arizona Department of Insurance 12 2910 N. 44th Street, Suite 210 Phoenix, AZ 85018 13 Office of Administrative Hearings 14 1400 W. Washington, Suite 101 Phoenix, AZ 85007 15 Moira McCarthy 16 **Assistant Attorney General** 1275 W. Washington 17 Phoenix, AZ 85007 18 Kellee Christine Mitchell 3540-8 E. Bermuda Street Tucson, AZ 85716 19 Kellee Christine Mitchell 20 c/o Wells Fargo Bank

5310 E. Grant Road

Tucson, AZ 85712

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### IN THE OFFICE OF ADMINISTRATIVE HEARINGS

In the Matter of:

No. 05A-141-INS

### KELLEE CHRISTINE MITCHELL

ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE DECISION

Respondent,

HEARING: January 24, 2006

APPEARANCES: Assistant Attorney General Moira McCarthy on behalf of the Arizona Department of Insurance; Kellee Christine Mitchell did not appear at the hearing

**ADMINISTRATIVE LAW JUDGE: Lewis D. Kowal** 

## **FINDINGS OF FACT**

- 1. At all times material to this matter Kellee Christine Mitchell ("respondent") was and currently is licensed by the Arizona Department of Insurance ("Department") as a resident credit insurance producer.
- 2. The Department issued Respondent a credit insurance producer license, license number 192193.
- 3. On February 28, 2005, the Department issued a letter to Respondent that was mailed to her address of record, sent certified mail return receipt requested, informing her that her fingerprint card could not be processed and had been returned by the Arizona Department of Public Safety ("DPS") as illegible. In that letter, the Department requested that Respondent submit a replacement set of fingerprints and enclosed a blank fingerprint replacement form. The Department provided a deadline of March 31, 2005 for the return of the completed replacement fingerprint form.
- 4. The Department presented a receipt card that contained Respondent's signature as evidence that Respondent received the above-mentioned letter on March 8, 2005.

Office of Administrative Hearings 1400 West Washington, Suite 101 Phoenix, Arizona 85007 (602) 542-9826

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- 5. Because the Department did not receive the requested replacement fingerprint form from Respondent as requested, the Department sent another letter to Respondent on April 19, 2005, providing Respondent with fifteen days from the date of the letter in which to submit the replacement fingerprint form.
- 6. The Department presented a receipt card that contained a signature of person who accepted service of the above-mentioned letter at Respondent's place of employment.
- 7. Steven Fromholtz ("Mr. Fromholtz"), Producer Licensing Administrator for the Department, testified that, to date, the Department has not received any communication from Respondent in response to the above-mentioned letters and the Department has not received a fingerprint replacement from Respondent.
- 8. Mr. Fromholtz testified that when an application for a producer's license is received and there is no criminal history disclosed on the application, the application is processed and the applicant receives a license upon payment of the appropriate fee. The fingerprint card is reviewed so as to make sure there are no blank spaces and the card is forwarded to DPS for processing, which includes processing by the Federal Bureau of Investigation.
- 9. According to Mr. Fromholtz, until the fingerprint card is processed and a criminal background history search is conducted, with the results provided to the Department, the license application process has not been completed.
- 10. Evidence was presented establishing that the Notice of Hearing issued in this matter by the Department was sent certified mail, return receipt requested, to the address of record the Department has for Respondent. The envelope that contained the Notice of Hearing was returned to the Department on December 28, 2005, marked "Attempted, Not Known".. After another attempt at service, the envelope that contained the Notice of Hearing was returned to the Department on January 3, 2006, marked "Attempted, Not Known".

1. This matter is a disciplinary proceeding wherein the Department must prove by a preponderance of the evidence that Respondent violated the State's Insurance Laws. See A.AC. R2-19-119.

- 2. Respondent's conduct, as described above, constitutes a violation of A.R.S. § 20-285(F)(2), by having failed to meet the requirement that an applicant must submit a full set of fingerprints to the Department.
- 3. Respondent's conduct, as set forth above, constitutes a violation of A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(1), by having failed to provide complete information in the license application.
- 4. Respondent's conduct, as set forth above, constitutes the violation of any provision of A.R.S., Title 20 within the meaning of A.R.S. § 20-295(A)(2).
- 5. Grounds exist for the Director of the Department to suspend, revoke, or refuse to renew Respondent's license pursuant to A.R.S. §§ 20-295(A)(1) and (A)(2).

# <u>ORDER</u>

Based upon the above, IT IS ORDERED that Respondent's creditor insurance producer's license be revoked on the effective date of the Order entered in this matter.

Done this day, February 10, 2006.

Lewis D. Kowal

Administrative Law Judge

Original transmitted by mail this /3 day of *Elman*, 2006, to:

Department of Insurance Christina Urias, Director 2910 North 44th Street, Ste. 210 Phoenix, AZ 85018